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LB 26

has to step into this. I know it will grow, a nickel will not be enough, probably as early as next year we'll be at a dime and so forth. This will be a very much growing program, I guess that has to be weighed. But I will say when taxpayers scream at us for increasing our spending, and they are going to, this will be one that you can tell them this is where we're spending our money, because this is involving many areas, as we've debated here the last three or four weeks, particularly the state becoming I say a surrogate spouse, surrogate mother, surrogate father, whatever, these are the increasing amount of areas and increasing amount of money that we're spending our state tax money to do for things that aren't being done in the home. And it's just a commentary on the time; there's lots of reasons, I don't necessarily want to condemn anybody, but it's an example of what's happening in our society that the state is having to pick up the pieces, if you will. I strongly recognize the need for a good breakfast, and in my humble, humble opinion it's very simple to have a bowl of cereal and a little milk and some juice out there, regardless of what time a child gets up, to do that at home. And apparently, in many cases, that's not even being done. So I just wanted to make some comments on this because I guarantee you this will be a program that will grow and this will be an obligation, an increasing obligation of the state as we go down the road. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Coordsen, on the advancement of LB 26.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, (laugh) Senator Matzke and I are in this particular bill somewhat interesting allies, I think. I often make the comment that whatever is going on in the school room today is the fault of Senator Matzke and myself and others of our generation because we raised the children who are the parents of the school children today. There...I don't know how many of you have ever had the experience of serving either in a school lunch or breakfast program, I have. And it's interesting to me the other social benefits, or it was interesting to me to observe the other social benefits, this happened to be a breakfast program last October. And this particular school system had had a lady, who was hired as an assistant to the food service person, who would not serve anyone in high school, when she first came,